

OCT 1 1961

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STATINTL

• Changing Of The Guard



Approved For Release 1999/09/16 : CIA-RDP70-00058R000200110149-3

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It Seems to Me

RUSSIAN PREMIER NIKITA KHRUSHCHEV is apparently stalling on proposals for a summit meeting on Berlin until he can see what may develop at the Soviet communist congress in Moscow late this month.

Obviously, he wants to go into that important session with all his flags flying so he can expect to emerge from its searching session with his standing strengthened or at least unimpaired.

There has been no indication that he faces any great challenge, but there is no certainty that the communist congress will stay in the groove and merely go through the motions of endorsing everything Khrushchev has done or proposes to do.

The pattern of the past in the communist party in Russia provides a warning that anything can happen, and the man of the hour today might well be the discredited or liquidated scapegoat of yesterday.

No one knows that better than Khrushchev, for he has turned the handle many times in the past with a view to self-advancement, and he has done rather well in achieving his goals.

PART OF HIS BUILD-UP PROGRAM might well be recognition of East Germany before the congress meets, so he can point out how he has stuck to his word in moving ahead quite without regard to the views of the "imperialist" countries.

The recognition of East Germany by Russia through a separate peace treaty would not in itself cause much of a ripple in the international political ocean, for it would be much like dealing with oneself.

Russia now calls all the turns in East Germany through its puppet government, and it will continue to hold the guiding reigns even after a peace treaty is signed. That is why President Kennedy said such a treaty meant nothing to the democracies.

It is what might come after the signing of a peace treaty that will count, and why Khrushchev wants the communists to cut the pattern for the democracies at least approve whatever programs they suggest.

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had their say in their annual congress.

On the surface, or as much of it as we are permitted to see, it would seem the congress will be a routine affair, with the usual back-slapping accorded Khrushchev for the progress Russia has made, especially in space achievements. He will, after all, write the script.

There may be another reason for Khrushchev's stalling tactics. It is not unlikely that he was convinced from President Kennedy's talk to the U.N. that the U.S. and the other democracies will not be pushed around. That might put a curb on his bluffing.

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PRESIDENT GAMAL ABDEI NASSER of the United Arab Republic unquestionably has suffered some loss of prestige in the successful revolt of Syria, to which he bowed. This definitely will lessen the importance of the UAR.

The government of King Hussein in Jordan quickly recognized the new revolutionary government of Syria. Hussein has long been a foe of Nasser. Quite likely other Middle Eastern foes of Nasser will follow Jordan's example. There could be grave developments.

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TWO OF THE POLITICALLY MOST sensitive posts in the Kennedy government will be held by Republicans. They are the director of the Central Intelligence Agency, to which John A. McCone has been appointed by the President, and the director of the newly created Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, to which he appointed William C. Foster.

McCone, former chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission, succeeds Allen W. Dulles, who retires at the age of 67 after devoting much of his life to intelligence work, beginning during World War II. McCone, a 59-year-old industrialist, was head of the California Shipbuilding Corporation which built 467 ships during World War II.

Foster, 64, a World War I pilot, held several sub-cabinet posts in the Truman administration—Under Secretary of Commerce, administrator of the Economic Cooperation Administration, and Deputy Secretary of Defense.

He headed the U.S. delegation to the abortive disarmament conference with Soviet Russia aimed at preventing surprise attacks. Both men are tested in government. Headline data shows they could reduce parties per-

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